

Domestic Relations Committee  
Judicial Conference of Indiana

**Minutes**  
July 15, 2005

The Domestic Relations Committee met at the Indiana Judicial Center in Indianapolis, Indiana on Friday, July 15, 2005 from 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Members present. David A. Ault, David C. Chapleau, Roderick D. McGillivray, Robyn L. Moberly, Nanette Raduenz, Richard G. Striegel and Michael P. Scopelitis, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Joy Hess, JTAC and Lindsey Borschel, Division of State Court Administration, and Alan Pyrz, Egov Strategies, also attended the meeting.
4. Minutes approved. The minutes of the May 20, 2005 meeting were approved.
5. Domestic Relations Benchbook.
  - a. Judge Scopelitis distributed revised materials on property division. Committee members reviewed these materials and agreed to continue their review and email comments to Judge Scopelitis for modification and further review at the next meeting.
  - b. Committee members reviewed an outline of the property division section from Judge Chapleau.
6. Child Support Calculators.
  - a. Committee members reviewed proposed changes for Indiana's child support calculators, including the following for the downloadable calculator:
    - (1) Addition of the date the child support worksheet was generated.
    - (2) Addition of the following language to an existing note: The program defaults to mother as payor of controlled expenses. If this is not the case, go to parenting time credit worksheet, Step 1.
    - (3) Addition of a note when a negative number appears in line 8 of the child support obligation worksheet: If the obligation amount on Line 8 is a negative number, this represents a positive obligation of the other parent. This note should be printed in the lightly gray area above Line 8.
    - (4) Use a light grey instead of a dark grey for areas of the worksheet not in use in order to save ink.
    - (5) When there is more than one child in post-secondary education, and they both live away from home, the number of weeks in section 2 of the post-secondary education worksheet should be averaged with each child. This is the same method as used by the on-line calculators.
  - b. Members of the committee agreed to make the following changes in the on-line calculators:
    - (1) Addition of the date the child support worksheet was generated.
    - (2) When the only children in post-secondary education are living away from home a payor of controlled expenses must be indicated.

- (3) Addition of the following when a child younger than 21 years of age is living at home during the entire year, a new step will be added with this question: Does the child live away from home while attending school? If no, there will be no additional steps. If yes, the next question asked is: How many weeks does the child live at home?
  - (4) Fix of the program, which permits, under very unusual and limited circumstances calculation of child support for 6 or more children when gross income is under \$4,000 weekly. This calculation is not permitted under the guidelines.
- c. Committee members agreed to test these changes. Jeff Bercovitz agreed to prepare a memorandum explaining these changes to judges for distribution when the changes go on-line.

7. Next meeting dates. Committee members agreed to meet again on the following dates: August 19, and October 21, 2005 from 10:30 to 4:00 p.m. at the Indiana Judicial Center. There will be no September meeting. The November meeting will be held November 17-18, in conjunction with the Domestic Relations workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director  
Juvenile and Family Law